

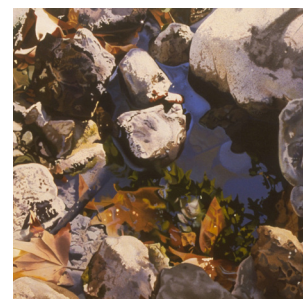
Artworks for the 2011 Art Tales Contest



1. ***Raven Reflecting* by Duane Simshauser** [acrylic on canvas]
To Simshauser, "Birds offer interesting shapes, patterns and attitudes. Crows and ravens are also featured in literature and legends. They have demonstrated intelligence as well as adaptability."

2. ***October: Waiting for El Niño* by Connie Jenkins** [oil on canvas]

The artist hikes to the source of streams near her canyon home to document the change of seasons in a political testament to the depleted wilderness. Her oils on canvas, with photo-realistic precision, emphasize a profound connection with the cycles of the natural world and the beauty of the California landscape. The land itself is formed by uplifted rock, and subsequently worn down by water in an endless cycle of birth and death.



3. ***From Two Trees* by Robert Engel** [oil on canvas]

The artist, inspired by nature, paints landscapes en plein air (outdoors in the open air) as well as from memory in the studio, saying, "My drawings are a visual meditation on the mystery and wonder of existence." Two Trees is a living Ventura landmark seen from all over the city.

4. ***The Four Seasons painted chest* by Jack Farquhar Halbert**

The wooden chest, created for a Ventura Music Festival contest, evokes not only the changing seasons on its many panels, but also, with its banded swirls of color, the music staff, notes and movement of music. "After careful cogitating on the chest, I see four sides, and a top," said the artist "Four tops? Four Seasons? Four of a kind? I went with the second singing sensation from the 60's. When I started drawing it, the swirling sky top just happened!"



5. ***Caribbean Sun & Giant Green Anemone* by Gerri Johnson-McMillin** [fishbone, monofilament, glass beads]. The artist, inspired by the ocean, practices fiber art, primarily knotted fiber sculptures and fishbone vessels she calls "jewels of the sea." She says, "In working with bones I feel I am weaving life back into the fish, experiencing their migratory path throughout the world, only to have me send them on another journey as another form."

6. ***End of the Rainbow* by Hanna Lore Hombordy** [clay, underglaze and glaze, fired with nails]

For the artist, "imagination is the catalyst" in her internal process of considering her materials, methods and elements of design that show keen interest in architecture and expertise in clay.



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Raven Reflecting by Duane Simshauser



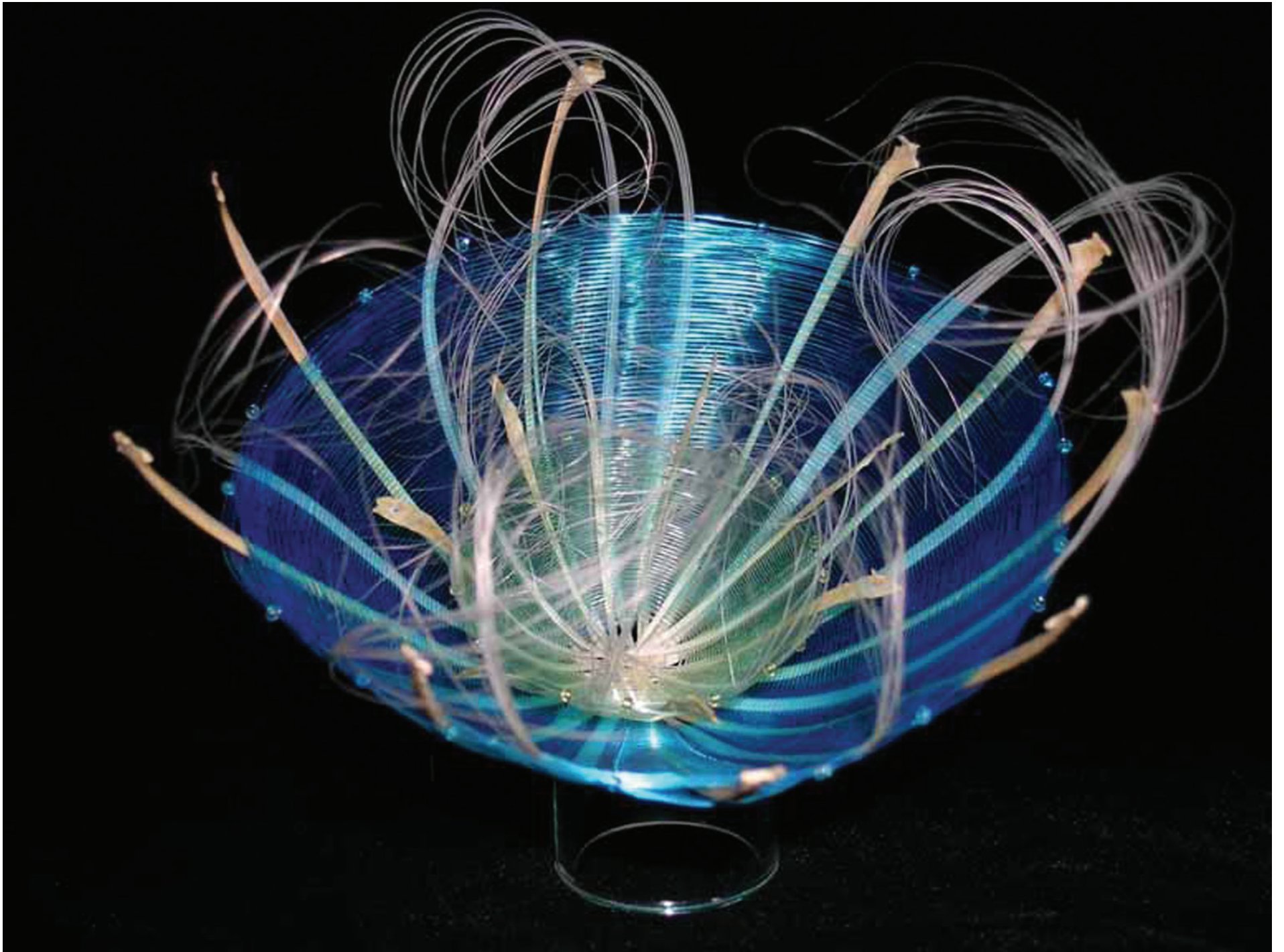
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